Radio Photo Service

1721. SHRI MIRZA IRSHADBAIG: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of cities in the country where 'Radio Photo Service' is available for communication and for news agencies and what are the schemes for further expansion of these services; and

(b) when this service had made available at Ahmedabad and since when it is not functioning; what are the reasons for the abnormal delay in restarting the same and by when it is likely to be restarted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Photo telegraph service is available in the following cities:

Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi, Gauhati, Hyderabad, Jullundur, Jaipur, Lucknow, Madras, Panaji, Pune, Patna, Trivandrum and Nagpur.

No further schemes are under proposal for expansion of the same.

(b) Photo telegraph service was introduced in Ahmedabad with effect from 4.3.1983. The service could not be provided due to equipment fault between 12.9.1984 and 21.11.84, 25.4.1985 and 12.8.1985. The interruption was due to the equipment fault and the same had to be sent to the manufacturers M/s. Electronics Corporation of India Limited. Hyderabad for repairs. After 12.8.1985 the service is working satisfactorily. One more stand-by FAX machine has been procured for better photo telegraph service.

Cases pending in Supreme Court pertaining to ex-employees of ONGC

1722. SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pertaining to ex-employees of the ONGC which are at present pending in the Supreme Court;

(b) the number out of them which are more than 10 years and 5 years old; and

(c) whether Government propose to make out of court settlement of these cases;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) Two.

(b) Nil.

(c) No, Sir.

Test for recruitment of Programme/ Development Officers in Bharat Petroleum Ltd.

1723. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharat Petroleum Ltd. had recently held a test in New Delhi for the purpose of recruitment of Progress|Development Officers;

(b) if so, what was the number of vacancies reserved for SC/ST candidates;

(c) what was the number of SC/ST candidates called for the test; and

(d) by when the final selection is likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) A Test was conducted by the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited for recruitment to the post of Programme Officers.

(b) The number of vacancies reserved on an all-India basis for candidates belonging to SC/ST category is 6.